Fellowship
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FALLOUT SHELTERS AND THE NEIGHBOR AT THE DOOR

The Soviet resumption of nuclear weapons tests last month had a number of contradictory effects. First, it brought outcries of moral indignation from many people who have been complacent if not enthusiastic about U.S. nuclear tests. Second, it gave a boost to the U.S. campaign to get citizens to build fallout shelters. Third, it provided an excuse for our country to emulate what an FOR advertisement in *The New York Times* called "a moral atrocity against all the world's people" by adding American-made fallout to the already heavy Soviet-made fallout that is girdling the earth.

In sum, these moves and countermoves in the continuing cold war are steps toward the abyss -- steps that increase our fears, our sense of an implacable doom.

Yet more immediately implacable is the refusal to look this doom squarely in the face and thus have a chance to turn resolutely away from it. We have no illusions about the harm done by Soviet tests, but would like to believe that our own tests will be benign and humanitarian.

Shall we get ready to kill our neighbors when they try to join us in the imagined safety of our little underground sanctuary? Episcopal Bishop Angus Dun spoke for many others when he said that it "is the most utterly immoral thing we could do."

Former President Eisenhower told a press conference last month that he would not build a shelter on his Gettysburg farm because it might alarm his neighbors. Billy Graham said: "I don't believe I myself could stay in a shelter while my neighbor had no protection."

Many, if not most, of those who would balk at killing their neighbors or letting them die outside, nevertheless continue to cling to the belief that somehow things will be all right if only they get into the shelter in time, with enough shelters for everybody. The specter of famine, plague and social chaos in the world to which the imagined survivors would emerge is all too neatly absent from their calculations.

If war comes in full nuclear force, shelters will make little difference. At best, they will only make our death a little slower. But meanwhile, look at the nakedness beneath all the illusions. In a world in which millions are uncertain of their next meal, Americans are urged to store up enough food to live on for three weeks. In a world where many have only sidewalks for a home, we are asked to build fallout shelters. By our selfish neglect, we are already killing the neighbor who is knocking at our door.

What Price Survival?

"Possibly a system of shelters costing 100 billion dollars could protect Americans against 4,000 megatons of bombs to such an extent that only 20 million would die. But by the time that such a great system of shelters, far underground, had been constructed, the scale of the Russian attack could no doubt be far greater than 4,000 megatons.

In fact, I think that 4,000 megatons is an unrealistically low estimate for an attack at the present time.

I believe that we now have 100,000 megatons of bombs in our stockpile, and that the Soviet Union has 50,000 megatons in its stockpile."

--Prof. Linus C. Pauling in the November Liberation.

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FOR Executive Committee Adopts Statements on Disarmament, Food

The Executive Committee of the Fellowship of Reconciliation last month adopted a statement welcoming indications that "a President of the United States has looked on total disarmament as a feasible political goal, even if all of the necessary details have not been spelled out." The statement also pointed out that there can be "no hope for genuine measures of disarmament that do not include the People's Republic of China." Moreover, it endorsed recent suggestions on Berlin made by the International FOR Council looking toward a "demilitarization of Germany and Central Europe as a step in the direction of world disarmament." It concluded with a denunciation of the assumption that moral values can be defended by the use of nuclear weapons--the "most atrociously immoral means ever conceived by man's imagination."

Another statement condemning "an ominous degree of moral indifference in our individual and national response" to the serious food shortages in Viet Nam and the People's Republic of China was also adopted by the Committee. The United States, the message said, has a "moral responsibility" to offer whatever help is in its power, "without political objectives, simply because human beings are hungry." The statement invited churches and private citizens to "join us in calling on our Government to make every effort to provide such help to those who are in need, regardless of their friendship or hostility to us."

South Africa Releases Luthuli to Receive Nobel Prize

The South African government on Nov. 3 consented to let Chief Albert Luthuli, African Zulu leader, go to Oslo, Norway, to accept the 1960 Nobel Peace Prize he won last month for his "devotion to peaceful means of ending segregation." The South African Government, which has held Luthuli in detention for the past eight years because of his anti-segregation stand, said he "didn't deserve the prize" and that it had been awarded for "propaganda purposes."

Luthuli, president of the African National Congress, which has struggled nonviolently against South Africa's odious apartheid policies, said: "This is a great honor for me. I am truly moved by this news, but proud also because this prize is an honor for my country and its people, especially for those who fought and suffered in the struggle to liberate all South Africans from the bonds of fear and injustice."

Troubled About Christmas Gifts?

For friends who have "everything," for those you can't decide about, for friends needing the message of love and reconciliation, you may wish to use the FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT PLAN. Send your check with names and addresses of recipients to the Fellowship of Reconciliation--and a simple card will be sent to the persons you indicate with the message:

"Christmas Greetings! A gift honoring you has been made to the cause of the Prince of Peace by (your name) in the Spirit of the Season and in thoughtful regard to the world's need for love and reconciliation. Fellowship of Reconciliation."

NEWS from the peace front

What may well be "the most important racial document of the 20th century" is now being prepared by FOR member Martin Luther King Jr. at the request of President John F. Kennedy, it was announced this month in *The New York Courier*. The document, which King refers to as a "Second Emancipation Proclamation," discusses the racial situation in the U.S. and documents the obligation of the President to enforce the "supreme law of the land" which forbids any state "to enact separation of the races."

King, co-pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta and president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, expects to send the completed document to President Kennedy within a week or two.

* * *

Hundreds of women in some twenty American cities participated in a "Strike for Peace" on Nov. 1 protesting Soviet nuclear tests and the proposals for a renewal of U.S. testing. Some 300 women and a sizable number of small children picketed the Soviet mission to the UN on New York's East side. A letter calling on Premier Khrushchev for a "permanent end to all nuclear testing" was presented to the Soviet mission by six members of the demonstration.

More than 100 women also demonstrated at the New York office of the Atomic Energy Commission where they presented its chairman with a letter protesting U.S. resumption of tests.

Meanwhile, in Washington, D.C., over 800 women paraded to the White House and the Soviet Embassy in a similar demonstration. They delivered a letter to the White House addressed to Mrs. John F. Kennedy and to the Soviet Embassy addressed to Mrs. Khrushchev urging a ban on all nuclear tests for the sake of the world's children.

Similar demonstrations, on a somewhat smaller scale, took place in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Detroit, Ithaca, Syracuse and other cities.

Last month the International Fellowship of Reconciliation issued a memorial to FOR member Phillips Packer Elliott, who died at the age of 59 on Aug. 2, 1961. Elliott, who was "in the forefront of those clergymen in our country whose public witness to the peace of Christ was never dimmed by war hysteria," joined the American FOR in 1938 and was its Chairman during the difficult war years 1943-46. He was also a member of the International FOR North American Committee "which he served faithfully and well." He gave years of arduous service as minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn and served as president of the Protestant Council of New York City. "A great churchman, a public servant, a dear friend, his loss to us is grievous," the IFOR memorial said.

* * *

Cyrus Eaton, founder of the annual Pugwash conference held in Nova Scotia, last summer invited FOR member Hortense Davis to participate in the meetings. Mrs. Davis brought greetings from the Cleveland FOR and her remarks on world issues were printed and distributed.

Yuri Gagarin, the first Russian Cosmonaut, was present at the conference, which discussed the need for communication between East and West.

* * *

Over 3000 children have signed a petition to the world's adults pleading "We the children of the world...do not want to be the last generation," it was announced in Hyde Park, N.Y., on Nov. 4. The petition, part of a program to get youngsters around the world to join in a peace appeal to the UN, was composed by several children in the Hyde Park area.

* * *

South African FOR Chairman, Arthur W. Blaxall, last month issued an open letter to all South Africans urging them

(Continued on next page)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please allow 4 weeks—supply both old and new address.

to "get on top of our fears" and "make friends with all men of good will" in an effort to achieve a United South Africa. Blaxall urged that those in agreement with the idea should wear a white button signifying a pledge to 1) abjure violence. 2) make friends as widely as possible, greeting with a smile anyone who wears the white button.

* * *

FOR member Maurice McCrackin was arrested in Brownsville, Tenn., on Nov. 2 on charges of "loitering with the intention of spying" following complaints by a local resident. McCrackin, who was arrested while strolling through the town one evening, has refused to pay a $50 fine and has gone on a hunger strike in objection to the arrest. Earlier, McCrackin had taken a truckload of clothing to Brownsville to be distributed among Negro sharecroppers who were evicted from their farms when they voted in the last election.

McCrackin, who was suspended from his position of pastor of the Cincinnati-St. Barnabas Church last May, will be retried before the Presbytery of Cincinnati for his tax refusal stand following a decision by the Ohio Synod in September upholding his appeal.

MISSING MEMBERS

If you know the whereabouts of any of these missing members, please advise the Membership Secretary, FOR, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

Here are the names, with last-known addresses where available: John A. Kriebel (Southampton, Pa.); Alexander Dewey (Chicago 15, Ill.); Rev. Richard DeWitt (Letart Falls, Ohio); Mrs. Patty J. Dexter (Newport, Ore.); Mr. & Mrs. Francois M. D'Heurle (Chicago 37, Ill.); Mark W. Dimock, Berkeley, Cal.); Barbara R. Dodd (Chicago, Ill.); Frances Doherty (Santa Barbara, Cal.); John D. Donovan (Bell Gardens, Cal.); Isabel F. Dornon (Cleveland 3, Ohio); Mrs. Bernhard Doscher (Brooklyn, N.Y.); Thomas Doucette (Detroit, Mich.); Gary C. Doughty (Ft. Collins, Col.); Richard T. Downham (Cheyney, Pa.).

A Reminder

Send your useless or broken jewelry containing gold to Stanley Cobb, who will remove the gold and send the proceeds to the FOR as a donation in your name: old rings, dental fillings, lockets—*anything containing gold. Please send no later than Dec. 1 to: FOR, c/o Stanley Cobb, 647 E. Palm St., Altadena, Calif.*

DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov. 18-19. Chicago area FOR Conference at the Chicago Theological Seminary. Write: Dorothy Calkins, 3212 Otto Lane, Evanston, Ill.

Nov. 24-26. Search for New Directions Institute at Hudson Guild Farm, N.J. Write: AFSC, 218 E. 18 St., N.Y., N.Y.

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